



Why a Summit?

Women represent 51 percent of the Commonwealth's population. When quality of life standards are measured, Kentucky women typically fall within the bottom half of our states.

Dear Summit Participant,

As First Lady of Kentucky, I am honored to be serving as the Honorary Chair of the 2005 Women's Economic Summit. The Governor and I are dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of all Kentuckians and we realize this cannot be accomplished without first addressing the needs of Kentucky's women.

I invite you to be a part of the progress that is being made on this very important initiative by attending the Summit, June 17-18, 2005, at the Frankfort Convention Center. Participants will have the opportunity to review and assess accomplishments, as well as promote future initiatives taken from the Final Report of the Governor's Task Force on the Economic Status of Kentucky's Women.

Regional meeting participants across the state are already working together to render solutions in the following five areas: education, economic sufficiency, leadership, health and well-being, and equity.

Please join me and be a part of improving the lives of all Kentuckians. With your participation the 2005 Summit is guaranteed to be a success!

Sincerely,

Glenna Fletcher, First Lady of Kentucky
Honorary Chair

Life in Kentucky cannot improve without addressing the specific needs of women.

47th – our rank in the United States for women's overall employment and earnings. (Institute for Women's Policy Research)

74.2 cents – what Kentucky women working full time earn to men's \$1. Median salary for Kentucky women in 2002, \$27,000. Median salary for men, \$37,000. (Institute for Women's Policy Research)

48th – Kentucky's ranking on heart disease, the #1 killer of Kentucky women. (Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services)

16.7 percent – senior women who fall below the poverty line. For senior men, it is 10.5%. (Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center)

17 – number of women serving in the 138-member General Assembly as of 2005. While that is two more women than in 2004, it represents only 12.3 percent of both bodies.

49.6 percent – registered Kentucky women who voted in 2000, placing Kentucky in the bottom half of the country. (Institute for Women's Policy Research)

23.4 percent – computer science degrees earned by women from Kentucky colleges and universities. African-American women earned only 2.8 percent of computer science degrees. (Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education)

Summit 2005
www.women.ky.gov/summit2005



KENTUCKY COMMISSION ON WOMEN
CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER, 2ND FLOOR
500 MERO ST.
FRANKFORT, KY 40601



June 17-18, 2005
Frankfort Convention Center
Frankfort, Kentucky

A project of the Kentucky Commission on Women

Kentucky Commission on Women

Connecting women ... for 40 years

The Kentucky Commission on Women is one of the nation's three oldest commissions on women in existence, celebrating its 40th Anniversary in 2004.

In April 1964, Gov. Edward T. Breathitt established a state commission to study and report on the status of Kentucky women. The result was the creation of a permanent agency to promote the improvement of the status of women.

Gov. Louie B. Nunn signed an executive order in 1968 establishing the Kentucky Commission on Women. It was made an official state agency in 1970 through a vote of the General Assembly.

The Commission tackles crucial issues affecting Kentucky women, and therefore all Kentuckians. The Commission works to improve the status of women in Kentucky, educates the public about issues and challenges pertaining to women, and acts as an informational clearinghouse for women around the Commonwealth.

KCW maintains a watercolor exhibit, *Kentucky Women Remembered*, in the West Wing of the Capitol that honors outstanding women in Kentucky's past and present. Each March, portraits are added to this exhibit.

The Commission's Web site provides many resources and reports useful to women. In addition, the KCW listserv allows information to be shared quickly by using e-mail.

PHONE: 502-564-6643 **E-MAIL:** KCW@ky.gov
WEB: www.women.ky.gov

Summit registration and scholarship information will be available online in the spring.

Pat Freibert, KCW Chairwoman; **Glenda R. Woods**, Executive Director; **Ashley D. Bratcher**, Project Manager; **Ann H. Rutledge**, Staff Assistant; **Jessica M. Woolums**, Staff Assistant; **Betsy L. Evans**, Intern.

Summit logo & brochure design by The Idea Farm • www.theideafarm.net

Women across the political spectrum need to unite behind issues that directly affect them and their families. Kentucky women have yet to form an effective and united front on issues that hinder their economic development, health and political status.

The Committee on Women in Positions of Power
From A New Vision for Kentucky, by the Task Force

The Journey

The goal of Summit 2005 is to review and recognize progress and accomplishments made since the 2003 Summit and the 2002 Task Force Report on the Economic Status of Kentucky's Women.

Individuals, organizations, businesses and local governments are coming together in ongoing regional meetings throughout the state. As part of continuing the effort of the Task Force and the 2003 Summit, these grassroots meetings are currently evaluating, identifying and documenting regional:

- Progress to date
- Successes
- Areas of concern

This information will be compiled in a report and presented at the Summit.

The goal of the Summit is to review and recognize progress and accomplishments...

Join us in Frankfort and help direct Kentucky toward progress in improving the economic status of Kentucky women.

The Summit program will:

- Showcase regional activities and projects that have been started across the state
- Provide facilitated break-out sessions where regions will come together to determine strategies and priorities for continuing their progress
- Offer how-to workshops and information sharing sessions
- Feature nationally recognized speakers addressing the issues crucial to moving Kentucky forward
- Exhibit and celebrate the works of Kentucky women artists at a fun Friday evening networking event
- Honor and recognize individuals, organizations and businesses at the Saturday awards luncheon
- Celebrate the successes and diversity of all Kentucky women

I want you to be a part of the progress that is taking place in Kentucky. Summit 2005 will showcase the hard work and dedication of thousands of Kentuckians just like you.

Glenna Fletcher, First Lady of Kentucky
Honorary Chair

The excitement builds across Kentucky

It was so exciting to see so many people attend and get involved in Women's Issues during the FIVCO regional meeting. Women from high school to retired teachers of every socio-economic level with a unique energy attended the meeting. These women were ready for positive changes in the state. Summit 2005 will bring this energy and excitement together from all over the state.

Regina Twinam, FIVCO Regional Coordinator
Ashland Area

I've been very fortunate in my life - I've always had a wonderful helpmate, but... what if? I think this program is a giant step in the right direction for future generations of women in Kentucky. I hear people talking about moving somewhere else because of the opportunities they have for women, but I think it is a better solution to bring those opportunities to Kentucky. Hopefully this is the start of that move.

Rita Brown, Pennyriple Regional Coordinator
Hopkinsville Area

There is no better way to meet, share ideas and network with Kentucky's dynamic women than through KCW.

Betty Barrett, Northern KY Site Coordinator
Covington Area